

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 6 to 9.

Claims 1 to 20 are currently active in the application. By the present amendment, Claim 3 has been slightly amended to improve claim language and claims 10 to 20 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber (U.S. Patent 4,376,373) in view of Ueno et al. (U.S. Patent 3,266,413) and Sharp et al. (U.S. Patent 3,266,413). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As it was emphasized in the previous communication, the present invention is particularly directed to order of processing of composite wastes. It is the feature of Claim 1 to perform a dry distillation process after performing a press process. Since the pressed composite waste has high density, the heat conductivity is increased. Since the heat conductivity is increased, the time required for the dry distillation process is reduced and the heating efficiency is increased as described on page 8, line 21 to page 10 line 5 of the specification. On the other hand, Ueno does not perform the press process, Sharp does not perform the distillation process and Weber performs neither of them. It is only in applicant's disclosure where it is taught that above-described benefits result from such an arrangement. Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion or incentive supporting the combination.

Further, the feature of claim 1 is not only just performing the press process and the dry distillation process, but also performing the dry distillation after performing the press process. The above-described benefits do not result from just combining the press process and the dry distillation process. Again, obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the

claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion or incentive supporting the combination.

In order to better describe the invention by the present amendment claim 3 has been slightly amended in order to improve claim language and new claims 10 to 20 have been added for the Examiner's consideration.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber in view of Ueno et al. and Sharp et al. and further in view of Murata (U.S. Patent 6,086,000). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The patents to Weber, Ueno et al., and Sharp et al. have been distinguished above. The Examiner relies on patent to Murata as showing a coarse and fine shredding processes. However, Murata clearly shows a dust treatment process which includes only crushing and separating recovered metals for recycling. The patent to Murata is silent about distillation process and does not suggest or show the claimed invention.

In order to emphasize a preferred embodiment of the present invention, new claims 10 to 20 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. It is respectfully submitted that newly added claims clearly define over all references relied on by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that claims 1 to 20 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

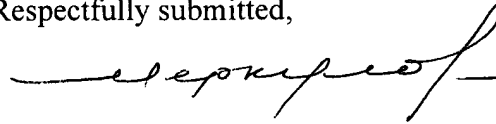
A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham,

Docket 03280091AA
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Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'O. Merkoulouva', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Olga V. Merkoulouva
Reg. No. 48,757

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190
Tel. (703) 787-9400
Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No: 30 743